

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7406

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0577

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BRASILIA FROM SAO PAULO 21 JAN 75
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAO PAULO 163

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, BR

SUBJECT: ANA ROSA KUCINSKI: CARDINAL ARNS' LIST OF MISSING
PERSONS

REF: A. SAO PAULO 79 B. STATE 273342 AND PREVIOUS

1. BERNARDO KUCINSKI, TOLD POLOFF JANUARY 17 THAT RECENT
ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED BY FAMILY IN O ESTADO AND JORNAL DO
BRASIL ARE PRODUCING NEW LEADS AS TO THE WELFARE OF HIS
SISTER, ANA ROSA, AND HER HUSBAND WILSON SILVA. HE APPEARED
TO PLACE SOME CREDENCE IN AN ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE TIP WHICH
RECENTLY ASSURED HIM THAT ANA ROSA WAS "ALIVE AND NOT BEING
TORTURED NOW, ALTHOUGH HER INCOMMUNICABILITY WILL NOT BE
BROKEN". BERNARDO STATED HE WAS ALSO ENCOURAGED BECAUSE
ESTADO PUBLISHER JULIO MESQUITA WAS TAKING A PERSONAL
INTEREST IN THE CASE. JORNAL DO BRASIL AT FIRST REFUSED TO
RUN ADVERTISEMENT, BUT BERNARDO BELIEVES THAT NEWSPAPER STAFF
MEMBERS IMPOSED UPON THE JORNAL MANAGEMENT TO RECONSIDER AFTER
POINTING OUT THAT O ESTADO HAD ALREADY TAKEN THE PLUNGE. (JORNALIST
SOURCES IN SAO PAULO APPEAR TO BE TREATING THE KUCINSKI
ADVERTISEMENT AS A FURTHER REFLECTION OF THE LIFTING OF CENSORSHIP
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AT O ESTADO, ALTHOUGH WE CAN RECALL AT LEAST ONE SIMILAR MISSING

PERSON ADVERTISEMENT ABOUT A YEAR AGO WHILE CENSORSHIP WAS IN FULL PROCESS.)

2. FYI. BERNARDO KUCINSKI STATED TO POLOFF ON DECEMBER 18, 1974 THAT A BROTHER OF HIS WHO RESIDES IN ISRAEL HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT A U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCE HAD CONFIRMED TO AN ISRAELI AUTHORITY "IN RATHER SPECIFIC TERMS" THAT ANA ROSA WAS IMPRISONED BUT WAS STILL ALIVE. KUCINSKI SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THIS INFORMATION HAD BEEN PASSED ALONG AT VERY HIGH LEVELS BUT ASSERTED HE WAS RELUCTANT TO GIVE FURTHER DETAILS, WITHOUT GETTING HIS BROTHER'S APPROVAL, FOR FEAR OF SPOILING THIS CHANNEL OF SPECIAL COMMUNICATION. AS EMBASSY WILL RECALL FROM OUR PREVIOUS REPORTING, THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT KUCINSKI HAS ALLUDED TO ALLEGED, SPECIAL, HIGHLY-PLACED CONTACTS WHOM HE HAS ASSERTED ARE INTERESTED IN HIS SISTER'S CASE. WE MERELY REPORT THIS INFORMATION HERE BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND FROM ANOTHER SOURCE (AND KUCINSKI HAS CONFIRMED TO US) THAT AROUND DECEMBER 18 HE TOLD COLONEL JOSE BARROS PAES, CHIEF OF THE E-2 SECTION OF THE SECOND ARMY HEADQUARTERS, THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT HAD CONFIRMED ANA ROSA'S IMPRISONMENT IN BRAZIL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT COL. PAES ASKED KUCINSKI FOR A COPY OF THE LETTER WHICH CONTAINED THE ASSERTION CONCERNING THE STATE DEPARTMENT, BUT KUCINSKI HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE THIS. END FYI.

3. KUCINSKI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT CARDINAL PAULO EVARISTO ARNS, ARCHBISHOP OF SAO PAULO, HAD GIVEN UP ALL HOPE OF RECEIVING A RESPONSE FROM GENERAL GOLBERY WITH RESPECT TO HIS INQUIRY INTO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE TWENTY-ODD MISSING PERSONS. ACCORDING TO KUCINSKI, THE CARDINAL HAS SENT LETTERS TO BISHOPS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ASKING THEM TO INITIATE INQUIRIES AND TO INVESTIGATE ALL LEADS CONCERNING THESE INDIVIDUALS. KUCINSKI ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT GOLBERY'S FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE PROMISED INFORMATION REGARDING THE MISSING INDIVIDUALS HAS LED TO THE CNBB'S HAVING DROPPED PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMISSION HEAD CANDIDO MENDES AS ITS INFORMAL LIASON CHANNEL WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT. ACCORDING TO KUCINSKI'S INFORMATION, ARENA FEDERAL DEPUTY CELIO BORJA WILL HENCEFORTH PLAY THE INTERMEDIARY ROLE BETWEEN THE CNBB AND GOB. CHAPIN UNQTE.

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